



WILL K. LAMPORT.

Will Lamport hasn't reached an age—or rather he wasn't born soon enough to remember with clarity the surrender of Yorktown or even the hot weather we had on Christmas day, 1873, and hence he does not rank with the old timers or the succeeding generation of prominent citizens, but his experiences in getting his first dollar were so much more ordinary than in spite of his comparative youth admittance to this column cannot be denied him.

He earned his first dollar catching gophers. As I stepped into his cosy office he handed me that information before I had time to remove my hat or swallow my gum. Evidently he had been forewarned.

"Gophers?" I inquired, "what's them?"

"Don't you know what a gopher is? Aw, come on, you're joking!" he protested, incredulously.

"That's a fact. Heard of 'em lots of times but don't believe I ever saw one. Something like a ground hog, ain't they?"

"Ye-es," he hesitated, "a little, but more like a chipmunk—no, not that either. You know what a mole is, don't you?" he added, focusing his eyes at a point just below my chin.

"Uh-huh," I confessed, covering the spot with my hand, "but you don't need to rub it in. That's been there for 30 years, you know."

"No—not that kind of a mole. I mean the sort that burrows in the ground; ruins your lawn."

"Oh!" I was relieved. I'm sensitive about some things. I've seen one. But I was still in the dark about the appearance of this gopher.

"Well, what is the animal like, anyway?" I persisted. "I've got to have the facts if we're going into this thing right." I added with customary attention to the unvarnished truth.

It's just like this. And thereupon he started to describe the gopher at length. From his description I gathered that the gopher was a mammal, and had fur, and a prehensile snout, and was near sighted and unemotional, and had a short leg or flipper, hung on each corner. Taken separately, all that might apply to a walrus, or an anteater, or a big eared bat or a buffalo robe. I wasn't satisfied.

"See here," I demanded, "we're not getting any place at this rate. You're

putting wrong ideas in my head. I don't want to go away with an erroneous impression. Make a rough sketch of this nose critter."

He took a pad and with a few deft strokes sketched something that looked to me like a map of Long Island.

"There you are," he smiled, "there's your gopher!"

"That's all right," I retorted, dubiously, "but what a long tail our gopher's got!"

"That ain't his tail—that's his nose."

And then he spoiled it all by adding some uncomplimentary observations about my intelligence. However, inasmuch as I am unable to picture this gopher for the patient reader, perhaps the patient reader has seen one himself, and needs no description.

Taking up our interrupted thread of thought, we were left with the knowledge firmly fixed in our minds that Will Lamport earned his first money catching gophers.

"They were ruinous to the crops," he went on, "and father game me two cents bonus on every one I killed. Five in one day I considered a good slaughter."

"He used no firearms—his folks wouldn't allow him to have any—but he had an old collie dog that was a sure shot and could scent a gopher purl high a mile off. In this manner he acquired enough small change to make a gratifying jingle in his pocket, and then he took to driving cows, adding to his nest egg."

No Fearful Adventures.

The process of driving cows is not sufficiently spectacular to merit individual comment, and as cheery faced young William didn't have the foresight to get stepped on by a blundering bossy, or get kicked in the backyard by one of the more ill-mannered beasts, so that some 20 years later we could have made a thrilling story of it, we will pass on to the tragic climax.

He scripped and saved, and arose with the sun and went to bed with the chickens (in separate quarters, however) until he had saved up ten dollars.

Night after night he lay awake trying to decide the best way to invest that ten dollars, and he finally concluded to put it in savings account at the bank at Auburn, Ind.

And the bank busted.

CLAIM DITCH IS LOOSELY BUILT

Taxpayers of Madison Township File Remonstrance With County Commissioners.

Declaring that the drain is constructed of inferior tile and defective manner that it has clogged with gravel and does not perform its functions, tax payers of Madison township have filed a remonstrance with the county commissioners asking the acceptance of the "Virkler ditch."

David Berger, Albert Weiss, Traugott Endes, Henry Hummel, George Mitchell and G. Fred Hamker, trustees, are the remonstrators. All are owners of land supposed to be drained by the Virkler ditch.

The complaint is made against John Cunningham, who constructed the ditch under contract with the county commissioners, and Ralph E. Keller, drainage commissioner, who, the remonstrance declares, is about to accept the ditch.

The remonstrators declare the tiling used in the ditch is cracked and crumbling, that it was joined so loosely that 200 wagon loads of gravel at least, from their farms, has fallen into the ditch and clogged the drain.

The county commissioners have fixed Jan. 12 as the date for a hearing on the remonstrance.

Fred A. Hamilton has filed a petition with the commissioners for appointment as superintendent of the county infirmary to succeed Peter Kelley, resigned.

City Controller P. A. Joyce has filed a report to the commissioners recommending the cancellation of two liquor licenses because the holders have failed to pay the city license and the places have been closed by the police department. They are the licenses granted to William Poulson and transferred to John Klughart and that granted to Perry Heabler and transferred to Walter Bucher.

ECCENTRIC MAN SAYS HE SHOT FARM HAND

William Beddo, 54-Year-Old Bachelor Near Buchanan, Admits Shooting.

Special to News-Times. BUCHANAN, Dec. 30.—William Beddo, 54, an eccentric bachelor, living in a small shack near here, has confessed to shooting William Cramer on the Clark poultry farm Friday night as a result of which Cramer lies in a critical condition.

"He called me names," said Beddo, "and I had to get back at him." He declared that he did not intend to kill Cramer but wanted to punish him. Beddo was brought to the jail late Saturday night and the incarceration made him restless until Sheriff Franz got him to confess, after which the prisoner turned to and got a good sleep. He will be held for a mental examination.

Tracks in the snow led officials to connect Beddo with the shooting. Cramer was a little stronger Tuesday though an attack of pneumonia has complicated his case.

FINDS WIFE DEAD. CHICAGO.—Geo. Spence returned home after a two weeks' absence and found his wife dead on the floor of the kitchen. Her pet dog was standing guard over her body. A delivery package bearing the date of Dec. 16, was unopened. The dog was nearly dead from hunger and thirst.

CHILDREN FOR SALE. ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Stephen Gado, a laborer, who earns \$10 a week, advertised that he would sell his daughter, Margaret, aged 8, for \$2,000, and his son, Stephen, aged 6, for \$1,000, because he cannot give them the comforts he believes they deserve.

MUST CHOOSE NEW SECRETARY

Difficult Work Will Come Up Before New Directors of Chamber of Commerce.

A joint meeting of the old and new boards of directors of the Chamber of Commerce at which the business of the present year will be wound up and the officers for the coming year will be chosen, will be held Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock in the Chamber of Commerce offices.

As soon as the unfinished business is complete the seven retiring members of the board will give place to the seven new members chosen at the recent election. The officers will then be selected, the places to be filled being president, two vice presidents and a treasurer.

The directors have on file a large number of applications for the position of secretary which becomes vacant when U. G. Manning leaves to assume his new duties as city controller under Mayor-elect Keller's administration.

It is said that several South Benders are among the applicants and the directors have been in communication with several from outside the city as well. Owing to the impending change in the directorate the board has proceeded slowly in the matter of choosing a secretary and it is probable that this will be one of the duties of the new board.

The present board confining itself to gathering the information regarding applicants.

SPECIAL NEW YEAR'S SERVICE AT CHURCH

A special New Year's service will be held Thursday night at the Lowell Methodist church when the pastor will deliver an address on "Help." Special music is being prepared. On Wednesday night the congregation will watch the new year in and an entertainment and consecration services will be given.

H. H. Moffitt was re-elected superintendent of the Sunday school of the church Monday night. Other officers elected were: T. E. Gearhart, assistant superintendent; Mrs. Wm. H. Teach, superintendent of the cradle roll; Miss Ethel Poyser, secretary; Miss Esther Luce, assistant secretary; U. S. Vaughn, treasurer; Irene Suchy, organist; Mrs. J. Ramsey, assistant organist; Louis Alexander, chorister; U. S. Vaughn, assistant chorister, and Louis Alexander, librarian.

ELKHART MAN LANDS \$4,000 A YEAR PLACE

Special to News-Times. INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 30.—Harry L. Arnold of Elkhart, former chief clerk in state banking department, was appointed actuary in the state insurance department Tuesday, succeeding Samuel V. Perrott, appointed chief of police in Indianapolis, by Mayor-elect Joe Bell.

Arthur C. Cravens of Indianapolis, a brother-in-law of Gov. Ralston, and former bank examiner, was appointed to succeed Arnold. Arnold's salary will be \$4,000 a year and Cravens's \$2,500.

SARA BERNHARDT TO BE IN LEGION OF HONOR

PARIS, Dec. 30.—Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, the famous French actress, was to be awarded for her artistic achievements by enrollment in the Legion of Honor, according to today's issue of Le Petit Parisien.

This paper states that Mme. Bernhardt will receive the honor with candidates on New Year's.

ROBERTSON BROTHER'S COMPANY

Open Fire In Earnest On The Ninth Annual January

CLEARANCE SALES

In sensational style the big price-cutting knives have been wielded to great depth. To the actual cost of production is where most of these immense bargains have been dropped for this sale of all sales. South Bend has never had an event to equal these Clearance Sales of Robertsons. Behind it all is an important reason which is seldom the cause for such

wonderful sacrificing: Stocks must be reduced to minimum proportions for scores of workmen are soon to begin annexing another 12,000 square feet. (The Independent 5 and 10c Store) to the Greater Robertson Store. The reason is apparent; so are the bargains—Read:—

Mighty Rock-Bottom Reductions Sweep Through

ALL READY TO-WEAR DEPARTMENTS

High-Grade Coats Reduced to Final Clearance

\$5, \$7.95, \$10, \$13.95 and \$19.75 are the wonderful Clearance prices placed on all coats. The cream of fourteen of America's foremost coat makers is what this splendid stock is composed of.

Every Skirt Marked Down—Now 1.98, 2.98 and \$5

A splendid selection remains to be totally cleaned out in a hurry. These clearance prices average less than half actual worth on the smartest skirts brought to South Bend.

Children's Coats and Dresses Less 25% Before Moving

A beautiful line of coats—chinchillas, astrakhans, velvets, plushes, etc., at quarter off. Dresses of wool serge, poplins, etc., at the same discount—quarter off. The lines are complete, but select early.

All Suits are Going Fast & Only \$7.95, \$10 and \$15

The real Clearance event of the winter season is now in effect. At \$7.95 are Suits that were to \$15.00. At \$10 are Suits that were to \$25. At \$15 are Suits that were to \$60.

All Furs Reduced to Half Actual Worth—Read:

About \$8,000 worth of high quality furs—fur coats, fur sets and separate pieces are remarkably priced at less than 50c on the dollar. Many have just arrived—all must go, and, quickly.

A Beautiful Purchase Line of Dresses—\$10.75, \$14.75

Handsome silk or wool dresses at \$10.75, worth to \$20. Beautiful silk models at \$14.75—worth to \$25. No more snappy garments can be shown at any price. Each style exclusive.

Two Great Lots of Waists—Values to \$2.95, now \$1.50—Values to \$5.00, now \$2.98

MEN TO SERVE RABBIT DINNER TO THE WOMEN

Men at Grace Methodist Church Killed the Rabbits and Will Cook Them.

A unique banquet will be served by the men of the Grace M. E. church to the women Tuesday night. The feast to be styled a Rabbit Luncheon, will be prepared, cooked and served directly by the men, even without the help of cook books. It is the regular monthly men's banquet but the women will be invited on this occasion.

Three teams of hunters were selected under the leadership of Henry Kale, William Brown and Henry Frick, to shoot the rabbits for the big event. Last week hunting trips were made by the three parties and over 70 rabbits were secured.

Frank W. Brodbeck will act as toastmaster at the banquet and stories will be told by the members of the hunting party. A social evening and short program will follow the feast. The banquet committee consists of Dr. C. C. BonDurant, William Brown, E. R. Schrader and Ira DeMoss.

GIRL IS A BOY.

The disclosure of the fact that the older of the two Cromwells now presenting a high class juggling act at the Orpheum is a boy has caused considerable amusement. The make-up of the youngster is truly wonderful and no one in the audience not advised of the suspicion for a moment that the lythe and graceful performer was not a girl. His work is unusually skillful and has excited considerable comment, and the fact that he has fooled everybody not employed on the stage, is remarkable.

See our New Year's window, 131 N. Main st. Mrs. M. A. Fralick. Advtd.

IN POLICE COURT

Out again, in again, is the record of Hugh Dehan, who again Tuesday began serving a term of 11 days in the county jail after being at liberty for but three hours on a previous sentence. This makes the third successive term he has served in the past six weeks. Dehan was locked up over Thanksgiving day, finished that sentence, was back in again for Christmas and now will spend New Year's day behind the bars.

"Yes, Judge, 11 days in jail would do me good," said William Hazinski before Parahaugh Tuesday on the same old charge of being drunk. Hazinski said he realized the habit was getting beyond his control and wanted to go back to the cell for a short time to think it over.

John Wozniak struck his step-mother, it is alleged, and he is now held in jail until she can appear against him in police court. He pleaded not guilty Tuesday morning.

FORMER RESIDENT NEAR DEATH IN OHIO TOWN

Word has been received by relatives here that William Thornton, formerly of this city, brother of Sidney Thornton, 427 Corby st., lies at the point of death at his home in Sylvania, O. During the past year his health has been gradually failing. For 42 years, up to his 70th birthday three years ago, he was an engineer on the Lake Shore railway, running out of here.

See our New Year's window, Mrs. M. A. Fralick. Advtd.

Who Does Your Thinking?

To the young girl or boy we want to say a word.

Someone has been doing a lot of thinking for you; your parents, your teacher, your friends; someone is now carrying your burden.

You will have to do your own thinking soon and you cannot do a better thing for yourself than a little thinking along the line of a savings account with this bank.

AMERICAN TRUST CO.

4% On Savings.

Start Now

Money deposited on or before January 11, 1914, will commence to draw interest from January 1, 1914 at

FOUR PER CENT Compounded semi-annually. START a savings account and watch it grow.

Citizens Loan, Trust & Savings Company

104 S. MICH. ST.

TALK TO YOUNG MEN.

Burt Kelly, head of the Kelly Business college, will give an address for young men in the school room Tuesday night on the subject, "The Making of a Business Man". The meeting is open to the public.

NOTICE.

From the first of January J. Burke & Co., opticians, and the South Bend Camera Co., of 230 S. Mich. st., will close at 6 o'clock. Will be open on Saturday evening only.—Advtd.

NEW ALBANY, Dec. 30.—The democratic congressional committee for the third Indiana district has set the congressional primary for Friday, March 13.

L. W. MCGANN UNDERTAKER

Home Phone 5211; Bell Phone 85. 333 N. Michigan St.

SLICK'S LAUNDRY AND DRY CLEANING CO.

126 S. MAIN ST. Phones: Home, 5117; Bell, 117. "The Slick Way."

CLOTHING for Men, Women and Children. \$1.00 per week payments. Open Thursday and Saturday Evenings.

BROWN'S CO. 305 S. Michigan Street.

Title Insurance Like Fire Insurance

A Title Insurance Company will not insure a title that may cause any trouble. Any more than a Fire Insurance Company will insure a building that is more than likely to burn. It does not, however, require that a title be perfect any more than a Fire Insurance Company requires a building that it insures to be fire proof. As the owner who does not insure his buildings takes the risk of loss by fire, so also does the owner who does not have the title to the real estate he buys insured, take the risk of having trouble from an imperfect title.

To prevent any such trouble have the INDIANA TITLE AND LOAN CO. insure the title to your property and be assured that you are as safe from loss as when your buildings are insured against fire.

Indiana Title and Loan Company

Zap Hagey, Secretary. Cor. Main & Center Streets. P. M. Jackson, Pres.

Here It Is **Brandon Durrell Co.** Here It Is
219-221 S. MICH. ST.

SAMPLE SALE HOSIERY

THE SALE THOUSANDS HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR, ITS WEDNESDAY

1200 Pairs Women's, Children's and Men's Hose, Silks, Lises, Cottons, fleeced lined. Think of the Selection, think of the Bargains.

Worth to 50c a pair Sale Price **15c**

360 Pairs Women's Samples of Silk Hosiery, they are samples that represent the \$1.00 and \$1.50 lines

Sale Price **59c**